The Ridge

Sandstone Bouldering
of Chestnut Ridge

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About this book

'The Ridge' is a newly developed sandstone bouldering area located about three miles south of the city of Connellsville, in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. Situated high above the east flank of the Youghiogheny River gorge, the area hosts a myriad of high class boulder problems spread out amongst nearly twenty-five acres of hardwood forest.

The purpose of this publication is not to serve as a guidebook, only as a photographic essay to a grand place. Maps, directions and route locations and descriptions are not included.

Numeric difficulty ratings are also left out. Problems have typically been rated on a generic scale of: easy, moderate, difficult and hard. A rating of 'difficult' begins to encroach into the modern 'V-Scale' rating of boulder problems. Mostly all of the 200+ problems completed to date have been sought out 'plum lines', and are considered to fall within the 'hard' category. Thus far the potential for new problems seems limitless as many of the established boulders are re-visited and fine-tuned. Also, many additional 'highball' and/or roped climbs have yet to be done on the taller boulders and rock outcrops.

As you glance through these pages, please keep in mind that so much development has been completed by such a small group of people. Many hours went into 'R&D', which includes nearly three miles of trail clearing (approach to all the rock formations thus far developed) through sometimes dense greenbriar thickets and considerable rocky and talus-strewn terrain, all at the height of rattlesnake and copperhead season! By far the easiest task was standing aside and snapping photographs.

We hope that you are inspired by this publication, and all the work that went into it by all those involved.

Finally, thanks to all the talented climbers who lent their time and effort to create the images included herein.

Cover Photo: Tim Anderson on the 'Whale'
Back Cover: 'The Wizard' in his mountain home

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The Wizard

Climber: Tim Anderson

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Hillbilly Block

Climbers: Carl Samples
Bob Rentka

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Two Hicks and a Chick

Climber: Tim Anderson

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Indian Paintbrush

Climber: Laura Hahn

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Ripple

Climber: Laura Hahn

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Nature Boy Block

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Blunt Arete

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4F Motel

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Hicks in the Thicket

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The Wash

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Grumplestiltskin

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King Kong

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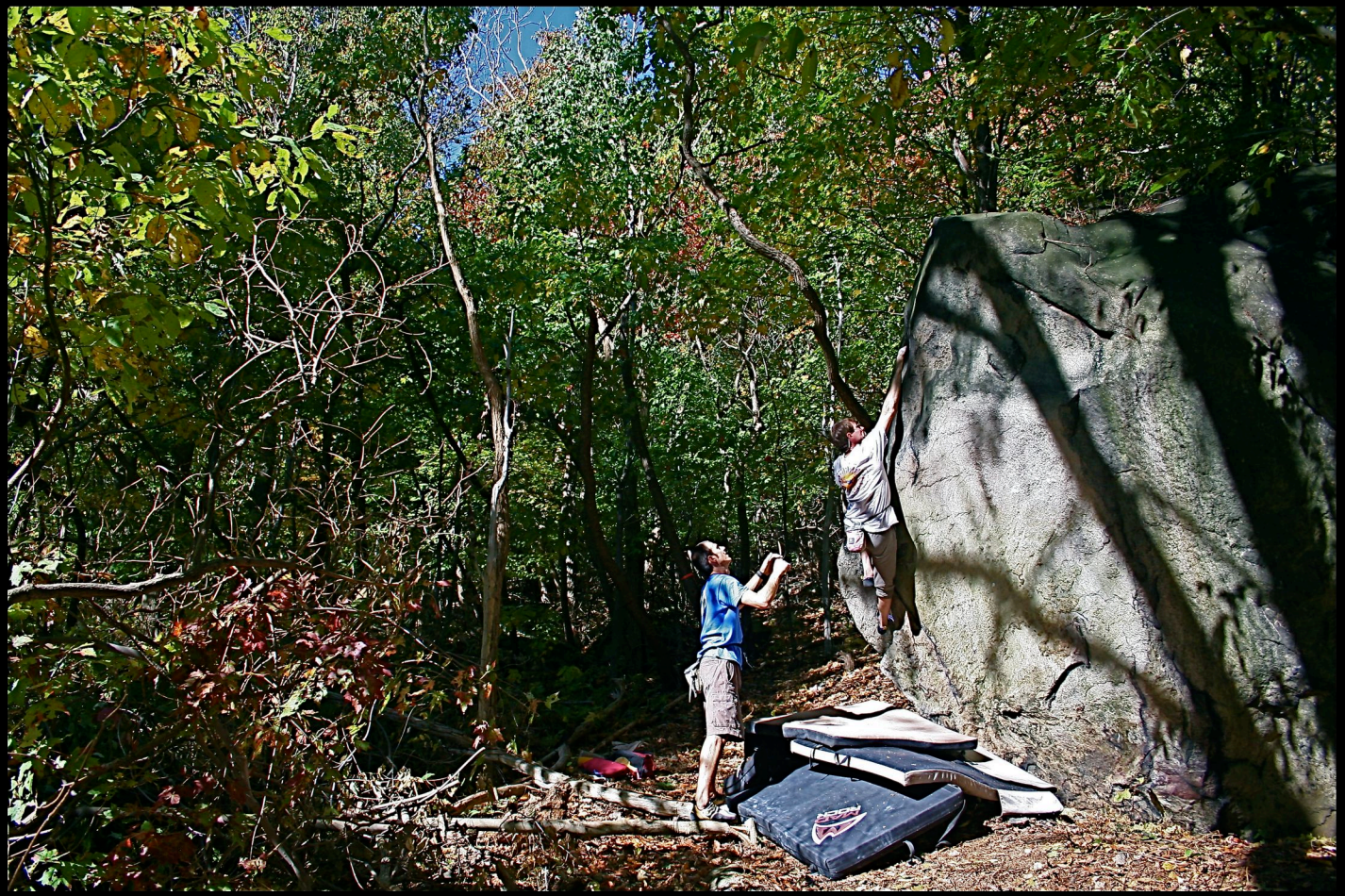

Naked Bob Block

Climbers: Carl Samples
Tim Anderson

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Valley View Block

Climber: Bob Rentka

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Three Hicks and a Chick

Climbers: Matt Johns
Tim Anderson

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Slab Block - North Face

Climber: Sarah Burnsworth

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Jiminy Cricket

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Black Rider

Climbers:Carl Samples, Bob Rentka
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Mouse Hole Block

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Black Box

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Snakehead

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